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"(b) & (c) The service of District Panchayat Officers has been now divided into two grades and the scale of pay also has been revised as under :—

					RS.
	First grade	..	..	..	200—10—300
	Second grade ..	..	..	..	150— 5—200
"(d)	First grade	..	..	—	10
	Second grade ..	..	..	..	15

The number of posts in the first grade has been fixed at 10 so as to allow deserving District Panchayat Officers with long service a reasonable chance of promotion.

"(e) Promotions to first grade are made on grounds of merit and long service.

"(f) Does not arise.

"(g) No.

"(h) No."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"May I know why recruitment to the cadre of District Panchayat Officers should not be made by the Public Service Commission instead of the Government?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—"It is more convenient to the administration if the selection is made by the Government."

Private practice by non-honorary surgeons and physicians.

* 67 Q.—SRI P. R. K. SARMA : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether non-honorary surgeons and physicians in Government service and attached to Government hospitals are allowed to have their own nursing homes and to attend to patients privately;

(b) whether exemptions are granted, and, if granted, under what circumstances and conditions;

(c) who are the physicians and surgeons who are enjoying such exemptions and to what hospitals they are attached and what their salaries, allowances, conditions of service, etc., are; and

(d) whether surgeons and physicians employed in Government hospitals are allowed to use the instruments and materials of such hospitals for attending to their private patients and, if the answer be in the affirmative, whether any fee or charge is levied and whether anybody's permission is required for the use of Government materials for private practice and profit?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—"(a) Government Medical Officers including Surgeons and Physicians are not permitted to run private nursing homes and attend on patients therein

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privately. Such of the officers as are allowed consulting private practice are however at liberty to attend on private cases subject to the conditions laid down in rule 18 (*c*) of the Madras Medical Service Special Rules in section 16 of the Madras Services Manual, Volume II.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) Does not arise.

(*d*) Hospital instruments can be given on loan and the dressings supplied to the Government Medical Officers who are allowed the privilege of private practice and to the Registered Medical Practitioners in general for use in connexion with their private cases provided, that they can be spared without detriment to the hospital work and also subject to the following conditions :—

(1) The ordinary instruments can be loaned on an application to the Resident Medical Officer of the hospital. The special instruments will only be loaned by the Resident Medical Officer of the hospital with the approval of the Surgeon or Specialist as the case may be.

(2) The Medical Officers and Medical Practitioners shall be responsible for the safe custody of the instruments and shall make good any loss or damage from whatever cause.

(3) They shall pay the following charges :—

(i) *For instruments.*—Five per cent of their value per diem, the value being taken to be the value as entered in the current priced vocabulary of the Madras Medical Stores Depot, subject to a minimum of Re. 1 and a maximum of Rs. 10 per diem.

(ii) *For dressings.*—The actual cost of the dressings supplied subject to a minimum of Re. 1 and a maximum of Rs. 3 for the dressings supplied on each occasion."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know how much amount has been collected by way of charges for the loan of hospital instruments to private practitioners? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" I have no information. A separate question may be put."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Is it a fact that the loan of hospital instruments to private practitioners is more a rule than an exception and, if so, will the Government take steps to prevent it? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" So far as I know, there has been no such complaint. This is allowed with a view to provide facilities for private practitioners."

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Mr. PRESIDENT :—" I gather that the Council will have to sit in June. If so, will the Hon. Minister for Public Works consider the feasibility of introducing air-conditioning in the House ? "

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I do not know whether that will be possible."

Mr. PRESIDENT :—" The Hon. Leader of the House has given notice of a motion to take into consideration the draft of the new Constitution of India. When will the House like to take it, to-morrow or the day after ? The Hon. Leader of the House will not be present from the 27th April."

The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Sir, that may be taken up as soon as the Bills pending before the House are over. As far as I am concerned, I will be present here till the 26th. On the 27th, myself and the Premier have to leave for Delhi. We will be returning after four days."

Dr. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Are we sitting the whole of to-morrow, because it is a lunar eclipse day ? "

The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The eclipse is not visible in this part of the world. So, the matter may as well be ignored."

Mr. PRESIDENT :—" I will include the item in to-morrow's agenda after the items relating to Bills."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Extent of cultivable and cultivated lands in the districts.

11 Q.—Sri B. BHIMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the extent of wet lands in each district of the Province, the extents on which paddy and sugarcane were respectively raised and the extent which is left uncultivated, during the last three faslis ;

(*b*) the quantity of paddy produced in each district in each of the three faslis ;

(*c*) the extent of dry cultivable lands in each district of the Province, the extent on which millets and other food crops was raised, the extent on which commercial crops such as groundnuts, cotton, tobacco is raised, together with details thereof, during the above period and also the extent of dry cultivable area left uncultivated ; and

(*d*) the quantity of each variety of foodgrain as also of each of the commercial crops produced in each district of the Province during the above period ?